



News for Immediate Release  
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**DWR Details Steps to Protect Water Quality After Delta Levee Break**

California Department of Water Resources Director Lester A. Snow today issued a statement addressing water quality in the Delta following Thursday's levee break in the San Joaquin Delta.

"I want to assure the public that receives water from the Delta that the Department of Water Resources and the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation are coordinating efforts to ensure the maximum protection of water supplies for the State Water Project and the federal Central Valley Project.

"We are taking additional steps to closely monitor water quality conditions in the Delta. While recent high tides have likely caused a slight increase in salinity, we expect conditions to stabilize soon.

"The water projects are expected to return to normal operations next week. We will continue working around the clock to assure that CVP and SWP contractors can meet their needs while avoiding unnecessary reliance upon water in storage south of the Delta."

**ACTIONS TAKEN TO PROTECT WATER QUALITY**

- The Bureau of Reclamation has increased releases of fresh water from Shasta Dam to help control salinity.
- The Department of Water Resources and Bureau of Reclamation have reduced pumping at their South Delta export pumps to reduce the intrusion of sea water.
- Gates of the Delta Cross Channel have been opened to move Sacramento River water into the central Delta to repel sea water intrusion.
- The Department of Water Resources is monitoring Delta water quality at more than 20 sites.
- The Department of Water Resources is monitoring channel velocity changes in the

Jones Tract area of the Delta.

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The Department of Water Resources operates and maintains the State Water Project, provides dam safety and flood control and inspection services, assists local water districts in water management and water conservation planning, and plans for future statewide water needs.

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